

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT NIACT IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 136043

EXDIS, BEIRUT FOR CHARGE FROM NEA SAUNDERS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:SOPN, PEPR, SY, LE, US

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S INTERVIEW IN "MIDDLE EAST"

1. YOU SHOULD CONTACT BOUTROS UPON RECEIPT OF THIS MESSAGE
TO CONVEY TO HIM FOLLOWING AUTHORITATIVE STATEMENT OF U.S.
POLICY IN LEBANON:

QUOTE: THERE CAN BE NO DOUBT OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERN-
MENT'S FULL SUPPORT FOR UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 425
WHICH CALLS FOR THE WITHDRAWAL FORTHWITH OF ISRAELI FORCES
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PAGE 02 STATE 136043

FROM SOUTHERN LEBANON; THE DEPLOYMENT OF A UN FORCE (UNIFIL)
IN THAT AREA; AND THE RESTORATION OF LEBANESE GOVERNMENT
CONTROL THERE. IN LENDING OUR SUPPORT TO THE RESOLUTION
IN ALL ITS ASPECTS, WE HAVE PROCEEDED FROM A COMPLETE
UNDERSTANDING THAT THE PROVISIONS OF THE RESOLUTION EMBODY
THE DESIRES AND OBJECTIVES OF THE GOVERNMENT OF LEBANON AND
OTHER INTERESTED STATES IN THE AREA. THE UNITED STATES HAS

WORKED CONSISTENTLY TO INSURE THAT ALL PROVISIONS ARE CARRIED OUT AS PROMPTLY AS POSSIBLE. THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT HAS ANNOUNCED ITS INTENTION TO COMPLETE THE WITHDRAWAL OF ITS FORCES BY JUNE 13 AND THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT WILL CONTINUE -- AS IT HAS IN THE PAST -- TO SUPPORT THE SOVEREIGNTY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF LEBANON. END QUOTE.

2. YOU SHOULD INFORM BOUTROS THAT WE SHARE HIS WISH TO LIMIT ANY MISUNDERSTANDINGS IN THE PUBLIC MIND SO THAT FULL ATTENTION MIGHT BE DEVOTED TO THE IMPORTANT TASKS WHICH STILL REMAIN IN STABILIZING THE SITUATION IN SOUTHERN LEBANON. WE WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTION, FOR EXAMPLE, IF BOUTROS STATED THAT HE HAD SOUGHT CLARIFICATIONS FROM THE USG FOLLOWING PUBLICATION OF THE INTERVIEW AND HAD RECEIVED THE RESTATEMENT OF OFFICIAL U.S. POLICY TOWARD THE PROBLEM OF SOUTHERN LEBANON IN RESPONSE. EMPHASIZE THAT THE IMPORTANT THING AT THIS TIME IS TO PUT THIS MISUNDERSTANDING BEHIND US AND NOT PERMIT IT TO DIVERT ATTENTION FROM MORE COMPELLING ISSUES.

3. FOR DAMASCUS: WE LEAVE IT TO YOUR DISCRETION WHETHER OR NOT IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO BRING THIS RESTATEMENT OF USG POLICY TO THE ATTENTION OF SIAGE IN RESPONSE TO HIS DEMARCHE OF MAY 25. WE BELIEVE, ON BALANCE, THAT IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO DO SO IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY CONVEYED CONTENTS OF STATE 135710 TO HIM.
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PAGE 03 STATE 136043

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